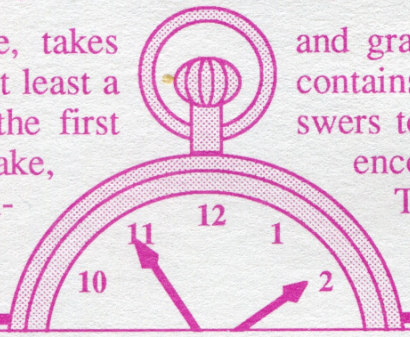
PLEASE READ THIS!

Using DirectED PLUS successfully

Some important hints for new DirectEDPLUS editors

Congratulations on your purchase of DirectED PLUS, the personal movie maker from Videonics. You're probably eager to get started but please take the time to read this folder, even if you normally don't read instruction manuals! It contains important information that will make your moviemaking faster and more enjoyable.

Video editing, by its very nature, takes time! Please note that it will take at least a half hour to set up your system the first time. A movie can take hours to make, depending on its complexity, as DirectED PLUS locates and copies each original scene, adding titles and graphics along the way. This folder contains many timesaving hints and answers to the kinds of problems you might encounter while using DirectED PLUS. The numbers in [brackets] show where to turn for more information in the *Director's Manual.*



How to get the best results with DirectED PLUS:

1 • Follow the directions step by step. Use the hints inside this folder.

2 • Start by making one or two small movies. Please do not attempt a large production until you've made some smaller movies and understand how DirectED PLUS works!

3 • If the Director's Manual and the hints in this folder don't answer your questions, please call the ***Videonics HelpLine:***

Videonics HelpLine

1-800-872-3637

In Canada, 1-800-441-1376

8 AM — 12 Noon, 1 PM — 5 PM Pacific time, Monday through Friday

Outside the U.S. and Canada, contact your Videonics dealer or distributor.

For fast *HelpLine* assistance please have the following information available:

- The serial number of your Videonics unit.
- Make and model numbers of your VCRs.
- Getting StartED tape version number (will be stamped on outside of tape).

Please read the manual and view the Getting StartED video before you call.

VIDEONICS 1370 Dell Avenue, Campbell, CA 95008 • 408-866-8300

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Hints, questions, and answers

Answers to the questions most commonly asked by new DirectED PLUS owners

HELP The PWR button doesn't work — I can't get the unit to turn off!

The Video Control Unit's PWR switch is unusual. When you first plug the Video Control Unit in, PWR doesn't do anything at all — it won't even turn off the power light! You'll need to set up DirectED PLUS first, through "**Learn VCR motion characteristics**" in Chapter 3 of the manual.

Even then, the PWR button won't turn the unit off if you have done any work that would be lost in the event of a power failure! Instead, when you press PWR, DirectED PLUS asks you to insert "Movie Library Tape 1" in the MAIN VCR. Follow the on-screen directions. DirectED PLUS will save all your library information on Tape 1 so that even if the unit is unplugged or loses power, your work will be safe. [Pages *vi*, 9-2].

HELP What is Library Tape 1?

Your DirectED PLUS movies live on "library tapes", a set of tapes made from regular blank videotapes. The first tape is called "Library Tape 1". Tape 1 is special — unlike the rest of the library, it contains no video. Instead, it contains digital information DirectED PLUS uses to make movies. (Tape 1 is much like a computer's floppy disk.) All your work — the scenes you mark, the productions you make, etc. — is saved on Tape 1 when you press PWR. [Chapter 9 explains Library Tape 1 in detail.]

Every time you finish using DirectED PLUS, you should press PWR and save your work. It's also a good idea to do this every so often during a long editing session, to avoid losing work in case of a mishap.

HELP The Getting StartED tape is VHS but my MAIN VCR isn't!

8 ○ B This symbol in the manual indicates special instructions that apply to you if your MAIN VCR uses Beta or 8-mm (Video8) format. Note that this applies only to Beta or 8-mm MAIN VCRs; if your MAIN VCR is VHS and your PLAY-ONLY VCR is another format, follow the standard instructions.

HELP The unit doesn't seem to work with my VCR.

If DirectED PLUS has problems learning your VCR's characteristics, try these steps first:

☐ Be sure the MAIN VCR's input switch is set to "LINE" (or AUX, EXT, AV, or CAMERA, depending on your VCR). **This is the most common cause of problems learning VCR characteristics.** Each VCR works differently: Some switch automatically when you plug in your cables. Some require that you use the

Welcome to DirectED PLUS: An overview

What is DirectED PLUS?

DirectED PLUS is actually an "application" that runs on the Videonics Video Control Unit. It comes on the Getting StartED tape. When you load the DirectED PLUS Getting StartED tape, the unit becomes a video editor, complete with titles, graphics, special effects, and the video librarian.

You can buy other applications. Each new application changes the unit's character. For example, if you add Collect-ED, the video jukebox, to your system, you will be able to record music videos (or any other video material), classify the selections by title and artist, and play them back from an on-screen list, just like a real jukebox!

Getting Started: What to Expect

1) Watch the enclosed Getting StartED tape. The viewable portion, which lasts 12 minutes, begins after the Getting StartED data.

2) Set up DirectED PLUS and customize it to match your equipment. Follow the Director's Manual [Chapters 1-3] to adapt the Video Control Unit to your VCR. You'll tell DirectED PLUS some things about your equipment (whether the VCR and TV are stereo, for example). Then it will "learn" how your VCR works — fast forward speed, which remote control keys are used, etc. These learning steps are crucial because DirectED PLUS needs detailed knowledge of your VCR to guarantee precise operation later.

Allow 30 minutes to a few hours (DirectED PLUS memorizes 40 characteristics of your MAIN VCR alone!). Most of this process happens automatically. This is a one-time operation — you'll need to repeat it only if you change your MAIN VCR. (The Video Control Unit remembers the characteristics even if the unit is unplugged for long periods of time.) If you have a problem, refer to the hints in this folder.

3) Make your first dubs and your first one or two movies. [Chapters 5-7].

4) Make a final production. [Chapter 8]. Once you've created a movie, DirectED PLUS turns it into a "final production" more or less automatically. This can take anywhere from 15 minutes for a simple movie to many hours for a long production (see the hints for how to make your productions go faster). You do not need to be there since DirectED PLUS operates on its own. It manages the details; it tells you which original tapes to insert and controls your MAIN VCR so everything winds up where it should be. All you need to do is check every so often to see if the flashing red light is signaling that DirectED PLUS needs a tape rewound or changed.

We strongly recommend you make one or two short productions before you attempt a major production!

Director's Hint

For the best video quality, record your original (camcorder) tapes at the fastest available tape speed. And because the beginning of a videocassette is generally unreliable, never record anything important on the first 20 or 30 seconds.

channel changing controls to select an AUX channel. If you need help, see the manual [1-8, 1-9, Chapter 10] or call the ***HelpLine***.

☐ Check other VCR settings: That the record speed is set to SP or Beta II; if the tape counter has a MEMORY mode, be sure it's turned off [1-8 through 1-10].

☐ Most television/monitors have a switch that determines whether you're watching a TV channel or the monitor (VIDEO) input. Be sure the switch is set so you're watching the VIDEO input [1-6].

☐ Repeat the step, "**Check remote control**" [3-7]: Perform this check three times. The VCR should always do exactly what the screen says. If it doesn't, repeat the step, "**Learn VCR remote control**" and refer to [3-6 through 3-9].

HELP DirectED PLUS still doesn't seem to work with my VCR.

DirectED PLUS works with over 99% of VCRs. But with over 500 current models (plus thousands of earlier ones), there will be a few that are incompatible. Videonics is constantly modifying DirectED PLUS to make it work with new models. If you suspect that your VCR is incompatible, call the Videonics ***HelpLine***.

HELP What to do if search doesn't work well while marking dubs:

Some VCRs are trickier to control than others. As a result, you may find it difficult to search (cue and review) through your dubs using DirectED PLUS's arrow keys. There is an easy remedy: Use the search (cue and review) keys on the remote that came with your VCR for searching. (Note that you should NOT use the VCR's remote control any other time DirectED PLUS is controlling your VCR!)

HELP My productions take a long time!

Sometimes DirectED PLUS will take a l-o-n-g time to make a final production — perhaps ten hours or more! Chapter 8 explains why and gives some hints that will generally help you speed up your productions. Note that if you do not follow the hints, the production will still complete successfully; it will just take longer. An accessory, called "Production Assistant," is available to automatically rewind most PLAY-ONLY VCRs equipped with wireless remote control.

HELP The scenes in my final productions are off by a few seconds.

The accuracy of your scenes depends to some extent on the accuracy of your PLAY-ONLY VCR or camcorder. The most important factor is whether it rewinds the original tape to the same exact point. Most machines do fine in this regard. Here are some hints to improve accuracy:

• Use the same machine to play the original tape each time. If you used one machine to play the original when you made the dub and a different machine at final production time, the two may rewind to different points, causing an accuracy problem.

• Rewinding a long distance may give a different rewind point than a short rewind. The best way to rewind is this: After you rewind a tape to the beginning, play the tape for five seconds and rewind again. That way each rewind will be from a short distance into the tape. We suggest you use this method anytime you rewind an original tape.

• Also note that for best results, your original tapes must have continuous video. Avoid large gaps of "snow" (areas of tape where nothing has ever been recorded) in the middle of your video. If you have snow on your original, record over those sections. Any video can be used to record over the snow sections. If accuracy problems persist, call the ***HelpLine***.

Thank you: We value you as a customer and want your editing experiences to be pleasant. We welcome your feedback — please call or write if you have questions or comments about DirectED PLUS. And please remember to return the registration card so we can keep you informed about new developments.

DirectED PLUS's SPECIAL EFFECTS

1. Cut
2. Fade
3. Sequential fade
4. Peek-a-boo fade
5. Wipe down
6. Wipe up
7. Exploding wipe out
8. Sky wipe
9. Ground wipe
10. Blue wipe
11. See-through wipe
12. Wipe from center
13. Wipe to center
14. Venetian blind wipe
15. Narrow blinds
16. Painted fade
17. Rippling blue blinds

DirectED PLUS's TITLE STYLES

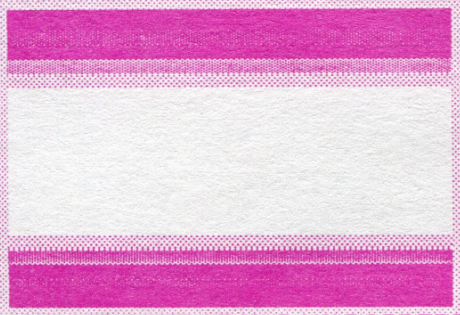
Big Block	
Big-Block	Inverse
Big-Block	Shadow
Steel-pen	
Steel-pen	Inverse
Steel-pen	Shadow
Typist	
Typist	Inverse
Typist	Shadow
Compact	
Compact	Inverse
Compact	Shadow

DirectED PLUS's GRAPHICS

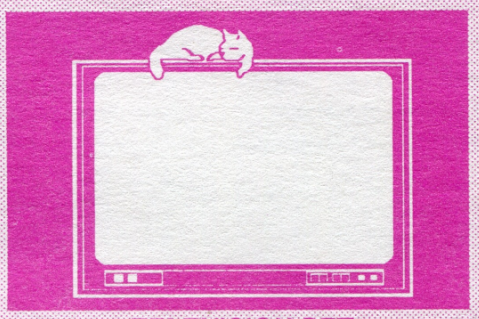
BIRTHDAY CANDLES

MUSIC NOTES

SUNSET



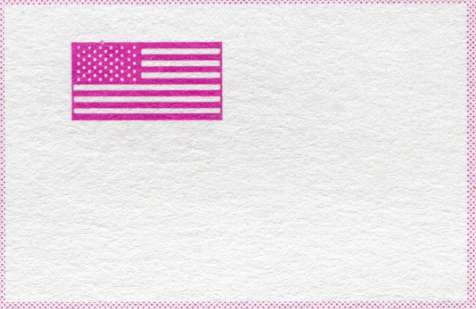
BLUE/RED/GREEN/RAINBOW BORDERS



TELEVISION SET

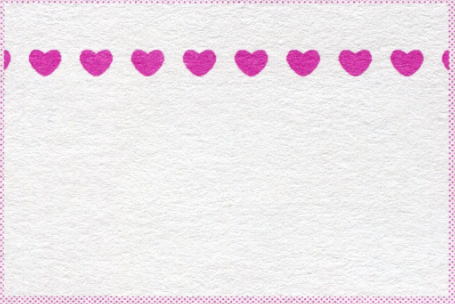
ON THE ROAD

HOLIDAY CANDLE



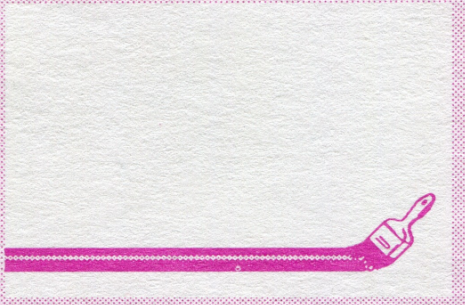
STARS AND STRIPES

CANADIAN FLAG



HEART BORDER

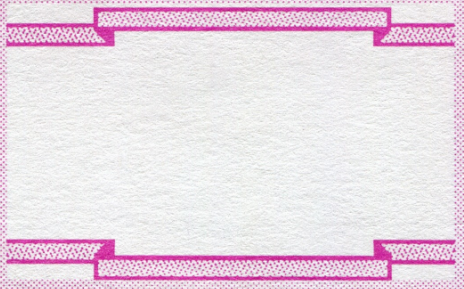
SPACE



RAINBOW PAINTBRUSH

WEDDING RINGS

CLAPBOARD



RIBBON BORDER

NOTE: "SOLID COLOR" and "COLOR BARS" not shown. "BLUE, RED, GREEN, and RAINBOW" borders are shown together. DirectED PLUS contains 20 graphics.